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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for monitoring the operational area of one or more subscriber stations in a wireless system facilitates determining whether subscriber stations are operating in their authorized coverage areas or not. The system and method first defines a characteristic composite fingerprint for a subscriber station associated with the operation of a subscriber station in an authorized coverage area. An operational area monitor monitors an operational composite fingerprint for the subscriber station. The monitor or another network element compares the operational composite fingerprint to the characteristic composite fingerprint to determine if the subscriber station is operating within the authorized coverage area or the restricted coverage area.